Repair/Replacement of defective Missiles by Air Headquarters

2063. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air Headquarters had failed to get defective missiles repaired/replaced at the cost of the foreign vendor within the warranty period; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Quantity 3 of a combat missile could not be repaired or replaced at the cost of the foreign vendor within the warranty period because of non-availability of the necessary test equipment in time. Administrative action has been taken against the officer who caused this delay.

Proposed sale of Orion PC-3 Surveillance Aircraft to Pakistan by USA

2064. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that USA has proposed sale of Orion PC-3 Surveillance Aircraft and TOW Missiles to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether our Defence Forces are fully prepared to take on the enhanced capability of Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The US Administration has notified the US Congress of the proposed sale of 8 P-3C aircraft and 2000 TOW-2A missiles, 14 TOW-2A Fly-to-Buy missiles as well as associated equipment and services at a combined cost of US $ 1052 million.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The proposed sales would also require additional security measures. It would not be in the interest of national security to reveal these measures.